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Honoring Ohio's Law Enforcement & Efforts to Keep Them Safe

Representative David P. Joyce of Ohio

U.S. House of Representatives

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MADAM SPEAKER, I rise today to recognize the brave men and women of Ohio's law enforcement. As a former prosecutor, I know all too well the danger our heroes in blue face every day to protect us and our families, and I applaud the efforts made to ensure their safety.

Just the other night, in observance of National Police Week, I was proud to vote to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, which provides critical resources to state, local and tribal jurisdictions to purchase bulletproof body armor for law enforcement officers.

For 30 years, bullet-resistant body armor has protected law enforcement officers. According to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in 2012 alone, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 33 law enforcement and corrections officers in 20 different states.

However, much of the body armor used today slows down and fatigues our officers due to overbearing weight and discomfort levels. As arms and ammunitions continue to become more powerful, we must do the necessary research to develop next generation body armor that addresses these challenges.

I am proud to say that we have organizations in Ohio, like ShotStop, that are doing just that. Due to their light weight and dynamic material, ShotStop's bullet-resistant products create a safer environment for the brave men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

MADAM SPEAKER, please join me in applauding ShotStop and all other organizations that are working to ensure our officers are better equipped to return home safely to their loved ones at the end of each shift. I am proud to support Ohio's law enforcement officers, not just during National Police Week, but each and every day, and commend those who are doing all they can to protect them.